

## **Minutes: Committee on Writing in the Disciplines/Writing Across the Curriculum**

Queensborough Community College / CUNY

The Academic Senate Committee on WID/WAC met on February 19, 2025 at 1 pm via Zoom

### **Committee Members in Attendance:**

1. James Nichols, Chair, History (2027)
2. Adam Luedtke, Secretary, Social Sciences (2025)
3. Alison Mello, Biological Sciences & Geology (2027)
4. Shenaz Ida, Nursing (2026)
5. Susan Lago, English (2026)
6. Nicole McClam, Health, Phys Ed, & Dance (2026)
7. David Pham, Mathematics & Computer Science (2025)
8. Svjetlana Bukvich-Nichols, Music (2025)

### **Absent:**

1. Neera Mohess, Library (2027)

### **Liaisons in Attendance:**

1. Arthur Corradetti, Dean for Institutional Effectiveness (President's Designee/Liaison to OAA)
2. Melissa Dennihy, English (HIP Co-Coordinator)
3. Monica Rossi-Miller, Foreign Languages & Literature (HIP Co-Coordinator)

### **The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm**

1. Approval of meeting agenda
  - A. Approved by unanimous consent.
2. Approval of minutes from November
  - B. Will be approved at next meeting after Scott Litroff's name spelling is corrected.
3. Continuing Business
  - A. WI Co-Coordination Update (Melissa & Monica)

All is going well. We have a large group of faculty again this semester. We still have college graduate fellows that work with us. James asked: how many fellows work with us? Answer: 2. Used to be 6-7. In the fall we'll have 1 at the most, or possibly zero. That is something we're thinking about down the line. We're losing half our team and we can't make up the labor on our own so we'll have to see. Are they gonna scale down WI or come up with some other way to make up the resources? It's an across-CUNY issue. Everyone is figuring out what's next. Every program will need to be adapted and figure out what's next.

#### **B. Faculty Re-Certifications**

Were there recerts last year? Yes. But it's not on teams. We have to clean up the teams and committee websites. Melissa did receive an email yesterday from Michael Guy (Dean for academic programming) a form seeking to find out how your program is going to function without funding. One of the things that has to be included on there is assessment of WI courses. Who will that fall to? CETL, this committee, the WID/WAC program? If there are non-certified folks teaching WI that will mess up assessment.

James pulled up recert request letter. Who sends out this email – is it chair or OAA? Traditionally it's been chair. Question for possibly sending it out through OAA. Is that possible?

Looking at list of who is recertified, what should the criteria be? Every 3 years was the original plan. There are

hundreds of people who should have been recertified who were not.

Could we set some kind of policy about decertification? No.

This is a toothless mandate. Ask Michael Guy what CUNY wants us to do? They want us to collect artifacts. If we can't get a syllabus, there's no way we can get student papers. In other words, we need to know the WI course is actually a genuine WI course before we assess it. The way it is currently is unfair to students, those who certify, and to us. So we don't have documentation on anything. And to Middle States, that means it's not being done. Melissa: faculty members have been coming to me saying that new courses are being approved as WI without meeting all requirements. Is that kosher? No. Artie: no course should be automatically considered WI. It's the instructor who needs to be certified, a particular course cannot be blanket-designated WI.

It's an existential question. Even the Provost wouldn't be able to do much because ultimately it's a faculty decision. This is why the Senate needs to take it up. Because our hands are tied. We can't force anybody to do any of this. It ties in with an academic freedom issue, ultimately, so we can't sanction or enforce anything.

James addressed the Senate last week, urging recertifications, Christi backed him up, they stressed how it's not an onerous process. What was the response? Silence.

Artie thinks we should send an email to all the people up to 2018 but make it strongly worded and say Please do this, for the integrity of the institution? We could even send it out from the administration on behalf of the Chair. How to word it so it's urgent but gentle. Not punitive.

James will draft the email, run it by us, and speak to the Senate again if necessary. If the email is more successful, and Christi and co begin assessment, then we look in better shape for upcoming accreditation.

#### C. Student Waivers

There are a few outstanding waiver requests. One was considered, voted on, and approved.

##### 4. New Business

One faculty member was approved for a certification waiver.

##### 5. The meeting was adjourned at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Luedtke, Secretary, Committee on WID/WAC